

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph.

[0025] At this point, the resources to handle the call are set up through the target side and the inter-MSC trunk 34 is maintained. The second MSC 20 communicates a handback command to the second BS 18 which relays the handback command to the MS 16. After receiving the handback command, the MS 16 attempts to communicate with the first BS 14. After the MS 16 successfully communicates with the first BS 14, the first BS 14 communicates a handback complete message to the first MSC 12. At this point, the handoff was successful and the first MSC 12 communicates a message to the second MSC 20 to release resources through the second BS 18 that were allocated for the call to the MS 16. The second MSC 20 communicates a message to the second BS 18 to clear the allocated resources. The second BS ~~14~~ 18 and second MSC ~~12~~ 20, respectively, provide a return message confirming that the allocated resources are cleared. At this point, the handback is complete and the inter-MSC trunk 34 is torn down.

Please replace the paragraph [0039] with the following amended paragraph.

[0039] At line aj, based on successful communication with the MS, BS1 sends a handback complete message to MSC 1. In response, MSC 1 sends a facilities release invoke message to MSC 2 (line ak). At line al, MSC 2 clears the resources previously allocated to the call and sends a clear request to BS 2 to clear BS 2 resources allocated for the call. In response, BS 2 clears the allocated resources and sends a clear request response to MSC 2 indicating that the allocated BS 2 resources are cleared (line am). At line an, MSC 2 sends a facilities release return result indicating that MSC ~~1~~ 2 and BS ~~1~~ 2 resources allocated to the call are cleared. At this point, the call is routed to the MS through MSC 1 and BS 1 and the inter-MSC trunk is torn down.